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Richard J. Leonard

Mrs X was born in Le Mans France in the year of 1888. Her parents were in the hotel business catering to traveling men who came to town to sell there wares. Mrs X at the age of seven years had to work very hard helping her mother with the meals and taking care of the guests rooms. Mrs X did not have the opportunity to attend school like the children of today but had a private tutor who would teach her in the evening to read, write and do simple mathematical problems and also the English and Italian languages. When Mrs X became fourteen years of age she met a French traveling salesman who would pass through the town about once every month selling perfumes, powder, notions etc., so at the age of sixteen years she married this man who is her husband at the present time.

Mrs X still lived and worked for ^{her} parents at the hotel while her husband continued traveling. Mrs X would only

be at home two days a month so Mrs X persuaded him to give up his position.

So in 1896 they both sailed for America.

After arriving in New York City they settled in a small French Colony. Mr X knew very little of the American ways and not being able to speak the English language was unable to obtain employment, so he worked at home manufacturing perfumes, face powders, creams etc., placing them in the different stores on consignment. By doing this their little savings dwindled very rapidly. Mrs X was not discouraged so she did fancy needle work and selling it to the neighbors and friends throughout the small colony. While living in New York City a boy was born and after residing there for about four years they decided to come out west. They reached Detroit Mich. and as Mr X learned to speak the English language he found business a great deal better in Detroit as he

went out and sold his homemade merchandize from house to house building a wonderful clientel. Another child was born in Detroit, a little girl, Mrs X still makeing her fancy needle work although putting it away for a rainy day.

Mr & Mrs X left Detroit in 1910 and came to San Francisco with about eight thousand dollars (\$8000.00) which they had saved in Detroit during the nine or ten years he was in business there. Mr X was very much enthused with San Francisco. It reminded him of France due to the sporting element here. He actually thought he had a paradise for his facial business so he invested about Five Thousand Dollars (\$5000.00) in a small shop on O'Farrell St. importing the ingredients for his perfumes, powders, and creams from France. He worked night and day preparing his different formula's, makeing wonderful

window displays etc., and ^{they} waited for business to come to him. Mr X did not know very much of the American ways of advertising although he had house to house experience and should have known as he admits today, that the public wants good products put before their eyes at all times. So in about two years Mr X had to close his little shop, and stored his imported ingredients and the products he derived from them away, and started to grieve over his losses, and thinking that he should have never left France another baby was born to them by this time and Mr X with a wife and three small children on his hands really did not know what to do, but not with Mrs X. She went out and interviewed a number of wealthy people in San Francisco informing them she would take their washing home and if not

satisfied with the results of the washing and ironing she would do for them they would not have to pay her, and also selling the rainy-day needle work which she had made in Detroit in order to buy food and help clothe her children. Of course Mr X helped her and between both of them they finally started a French Laundry. Mr X would call for and deliver the laundry when finished, and Mr X became acquainted with a large number of wealthy people also.

One fine afternoon Mr X was delivering some laundry to a lady of the Four Hundred class on California St. This aristocratic old lady answered the door herself with her face just plastered with cold cream. She appeared to be very angry notifying Mr X that her maid had met with a severe accident that morning and was at present in the hospital and

Having an engagement for dinner that evening, was very much at a loss as her maid had always fixed her face by massaging etc. for these special occasions. So she asked him to have Max come over to see if she could help her. Of course Max knew he could perform this unusual feat but he was too bashful to admit it. Upon arriving at the laundry he told Max and she made him go right back and for him to take some of his own equipment with him. He did so and worked upon this wealthy old ladies face. He used his favorite creams and then blended a powder for her right before her eyes, improving her very much spoiled complexion, and when he had finished the wealthy old lady was so pleased she gave him Ten Dollars (\$10.00) for his trouble of about thirty minutes.

and, ordered a supply of powder
and cream. So this gave Max an
idea. He realized that these wealthy
people would pay almost anything
for a beautiful complexion, so through
this same lady he obtained the names
and secured introduction to her
friends going to their homes and
obtaining his powder and cream
according to the complexion and pose
of the skin, and thereby doing a very
fine business and receiving for his
products which he could hardly
get fifty cents for at his little shop
as high as twenty-five dollars (\$25.00)
per box. Max and Max sold their
laundry in 1915 and opened a shop
on Leary St which they still own
and catering to the well to do people,
he also had a booth at the World's
Fair in 1915 which enabled him to
accomplish a large following. The
people come to his shop now and

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do not have to go to their homes.
He has a large clientele. He also has
a card on file pertaining to all his
customers faces and all they have to
do is communicate with him by phone
telling him what they need and he
refers to his file and the proper formulas
are there for that particular customer.
He is a very happy merchant today
but he claims if it was not for his
wife who always was the encourage-
ing half he would no doubt have
been in the County Home by now.

He has given his children a
good education, his oldest son
a Stanford graduate and is
connected with a large engineering
concern in Chicago Ill.

Dr. Paul Radin
J. Le Breton

Chari-vari

In France when a widow or widower announce their engagement to be married again, it is the custom to gather up a large party and parade to the widow, or widower's house and seranade him or her.

If the man happens to be a carpenter they take carpenter tools and make a lot of racket under his window. If he is a cobbler, or a blacksmith they take the tools of his trade to make their demonstrations.

If the widow happens to be a cook they rattle cooking utensils.

In order to stop this seranade some wine and cheese is quickly brought out and the seranaders are invited to come in wet their whistles and drop their noise making equipment.

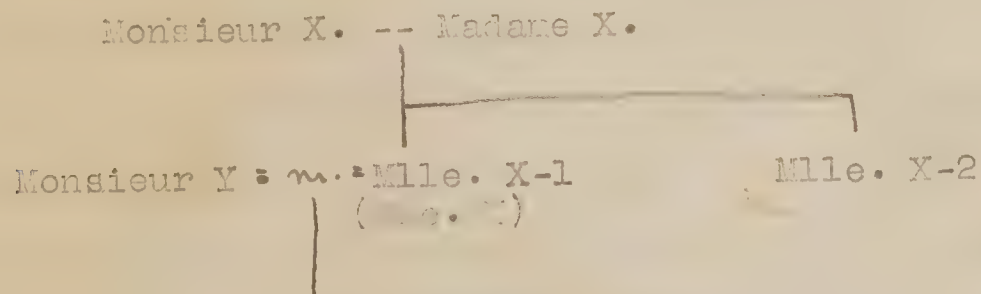
If the widower happens to be a stingy fellow who likes to drink his wine alone they make enough noise to change his mind about a bottle of wine or two.

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TO CORSIGN IN IGRAFC

(from a conversation with Madame Y.)

For the sake of convenience and clarity, I give a list of the personae of the report, in the form of a genealogical chart.



The native home of the X family was the town of Pau in southwestern France.

Monsieur X came of a prosperous bourgeois, or petty bourgeois, family. His father owned quite a bit of property in and around Pau. Many members of the family had served the church, as priests, monks, nuns. Monsieur X was one of several children.

Madame X, I gathered, was of mixed bourgeois and aristocratic descent. At any rate, she was brought up in an education on "aristocratic" education in a Catholic convent.

The story of why the X family came to America goes back to about the turn of the century, when M. X's father died without

having left any will as to the disposition of his properties. To make a long story short, the matter was taken to the courts, suit followed suit, until in the end most of the paternal wealth was in the pockets of the lawyers; and none in those of M. X.

But M. X was an enterprising man. While the matter of the inheritance was still in the courts, he ventured into business, first as an importer of oranges, from Spain into France, then as importer of Spanish wines. But both these undertakings proved disastrous to him; not, as his daughter put it, because "papa himself drank too much of the wine," etc. (being rather a teetotaler), but because he had the misfortune, in each venture, to acquire business partners who were something in the way of sharpers and did him out of his investments. M. X, in other words, was not much of a business man but rather a too optimistic goodnatured, happy-go-lucky fellow, in sum, tres joli.

After the failure of these ventures, and with the complete collapse of the hope of realizing on the inheritance, M. X moved to Paris with his family, where (he was something of a horticulturist) he got himself some sort of a job ~~minimizing the mushroom industry~~ in the mushroom-raising industry. But this was not wholly to his liking.

Through a chance acquaintance, a Frenchman who lived and worked in the U.S., but visited Paris at regular intervals, M. X became interested in America. Said acquaintance suggested to X. that he ought to see the U.S. with his own eyes. M. X. agreed. He undertook a visit to this country; and was "charmed." He went back to France, returning with his wife and his two daughters. They came directly to Berkeley, via New York. --- This was in the winter of 1909-1910. M. X. was at this time 50 years old;

The first part of the paper is devoted to a discussion of the general principles of the theory of the structure of the atom. It is shown that the structure of the atom is determined by the laws of quantum mechanics, and that the laws of quantum mechanics are in agreement with the experimental facts.

The second part of the paper is devoted to a discussion of the application of the theory of the structure of the atom to the study of the properties of matter. It is shown that the theory of the structure of the atom can be used to explain the properties of matter, and that the properties of matter can be used to test the theory of the structure of the atom.

The third part of the paper is devoted to a discussion of the application of the theory of the structure of the atom to the study of the properties of light. It is shown that the theory of the structure of the atom can be used to explain the properties of light, and that the properties of light can be used to test the theory of the structure of the atom.

The fourth part of the paper is devoted to a discussion of the application of the theory of the structure of the atom to the study of the properties of the universe. It is shown that the theory of the structure of the atom can be used to explain the properties of the universe, and that the properties of the universe can be used to test the theory of the structure of the atom.

his wife somewhat younger; his daughters about 18 to 20.

The daughters of X had received a good education, having finished the "high school" course. Mlle. X-1 (Mme. Y) was getting ready to enter "normal" to prepare for a teacher's career, when the inheritance bubble collapsed, leaving her without funds. On this, she joined the ranks of the government employees, getting a clerical post-office job.

Arrived in Berkeley, X. got a job without difficulty, as gardener on one of the local piedmont estates. Mlle. X-1 became a French governess to the children of wealthy San Franciscans; and occasionally, between positions, worked as bookkeeper for French laundries. Mlle. X-2 worked in French cleaning and laundering establishments.

M. X was happy in his new surroundings; Mme. X was decidedly unhappy; the young ladies were quite content, at the same time, filially solicitous.

The discontent and unhappiness of Mme. X increased with the years. The causes of misery were especially three: great love of France; the uncouth Yankee language; her economic and, in particular, her social position. In France, she had had her own home, her own servants, ~~ammmmm~~ man and maid, including maids for her daughter; here, one of her daughters was herself a "servant," her husband was "the gardener" (like unto a servant), and she was "the gardener's wife." Thus, in the eyes of Mme. X; it is not[✓]to say that she was treated thus in fact.

A remedy was tried. The two daughters pinched and scraped,

~~and~~

and finally accumulated enough savings out of their wages to buy a modest house in Oakland. This was presented to the mother. M. X gave up gardening "for other people" and got a job with the El Dorado Oil Works, just then opening its plant. This, about 1913.

But even under a roof she could call her own, Mme. X was still very unhappy. In fact, she was on the very point of success in persuading M. X to take them all back to France -- she would be quite content just to be back in la patrie again, servants or no -- when a stroke of paralysis caused her death.

One gathers that M. X was saddened, but for all that at least somewhat relieved. His story, we bring to a close right here. At 74, he is still alive (very much so), and still working for the El Dorado Oil concern, as he has throughout the years. His regular work is connected with the refining process. For the past month or so, the factory having suspended operation temporarily account a recently levied federal tax on ~~sopra~~ ~~mmh~~ products, he has worked as day-watchman at the plant. Out of his wages he has saved enough to have purchased one house in which he now lives. He has paid a visit (or ~~to~~) to France, but has never desired to go back there on any other basis.

He has not become a U. S. citizen; at first there was the doubt as to whether the family would stay in America; then, his advanced years.

Interesting -- and perhaps of some little psycho-sociological value -- is the fact that he has maintained the daily routine of life established before leaving France. At 74, he still goes to bed shortly after sunset, rises promptly at 4 a.m., begins the day with a bicycle ride (!), comes home, eats breakfast, and goes to work. Thus, day in, day out.

Concerning Mlle. X-2, I can report nothing further. If my memory serves me right, she is now dead.

Mlle. X-1 became Mme. Y about 1914. After marrying, she gave up outside remunerative work.

Monsieur Y. is a native of Corsica. He was a peasant and the village musician, as was his father before him and his father's ancestors back to time immemorial. He left Corsica as a young man -- "to better his lot;" arriving in San Francisco shortly before the great earthquake and fire. After having lost the very little that he had, in that catastrophe, he went to work in a Frisco baking and confectionery factory, keeping this job until the time of his marriage with Mlle. X-1; when he joined M. X at the El Dorado Oil Works, also in the refining department. He has worked here steadily, without interruption until this summer, 1934, when the factory stopped operations temporarily for reasons mentioned above. The day I talked to Mme. Y, her husband had gone back to work for the first time in two months; he expects to have his job back again regularly if the plant can operate using linseed, etc. for raw materials instead of copra. During the two-month lay-off, M. Y did some business on his own, and in a small way, making candies.

Thus, the depression 1929 ff., as far as the Y's are concerned, began only this summer. Thus far they have not been seriously affected.

They have saved their pennies. Bought one house in Berkeley. They are now renting this, since they live with M. X at the latter's house. In addition, the Y's own also the house which Mme. Y and

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[Illegible text]

M. Y is still a citizen of France. He once made a beginning of becoming a U.S. citizen, but "his eyes are bad," and he had to stop his study of the art of reading English.

M. and Mme. Y have not left this country since entering. They wanted to visit Europe, after the war; but they discovered in time that M. Y was liable to a turn in prison if he entered France, under the laws against insoumis (he had not answered the call to arms during the war), and the plan came to nothing. More recently, said French laws having been modified in the meantime, they were again ready for a visit to the old country; but this time fate intervened with last minute complications over passports due to some ~~flaw~~ flaw in the birth records of their oldest daughter.

M. and Mme. Y have been blessed with four daughters, the oldest of whom is now 19.

The only cultural conflict discovered is the normal one of the younger generation balking at speaking the mother-tongue. In their home, the Y's would like to have French spoken; but they find ~~in~~ some difficulties in realising the aim; and are forced to resort to such time-honored tricks as pretending not to understand the children when they do not speak French. On the whole, in this respect, things could be better in Mme. Y's opinion -- and worse, too. The children understand French perfectly; but speak it reluctantly and not too naturally.

The entire family (including grandpapa X) is still faithful to the Catholic Church.

~~W. H. Auden, 1944~~
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A few more notes on Mme. Y. She is a well-educated woman, of course; reads, besides French, English, Spanish, Italian, some German. She is also pretty intelligent.

She is rather well informed on current events; follows U. S. politics with some interest. She approves of Roosevelt and some features of the New Deal. The prevailing "hard times" in the U. S. she considers to a very large extent due to the monopolistic aggression of big business, with its control over most of the press (and public opinion) and its preponderant influence in legislation. This conclusion seems to be based in large measure on her immediate experiences; thus: the big packing concerns "wrote" the legislation which made the production of copra oil unprofitable ~~mm~~ to El Dorado, bringing about her husband's lay-off. Again: she expects to see more economic suffering this coming winter than in the previous years; (again, influence of immediate experiences). --- She used to read the American periodicals with some regularity, Harpers, Atlantic, etc; and was for many years a subscriber to The Literary Digest. The last-mentioned sheet she values very highly, especially for its "choice diction and pure English."

Mme. Y makes no special effort to keep abreast of the political situation in France, or for that matter Europe as a whole. However, by reason of her Corsican husband's Italian acquaintances, she is extremely well posted as to the situation in Italy. Here is her opinion on Mussolini and related topics: He has done some good, e.g., eliminating mendicancy, building needed public ~~utilities~~ utilities, "unifying" Italy; on the other hand, he has incurred the bitter hatred of the Italian popular masses, and with good reason,

e.g., "in France taxes are much higher than in America, but in Italy the tax situation is even much worse than in France," In Italy "every single egg is taxed," also "every single geranium -- the women have to give up their window flower boxes," etc.; a sailor friend of the family reports that in Naples Mussolini's publicly posted bulletins, etc., are always torn down over night, etc.

She would hate to see fascism come to France; but is not very sanguine about the prospects: account, she believes the left parties, the S.P. and the C.P., have not the necessary confidence of the popular French masses.

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